

26 May, 1998

**PERSONAL TO STEVEN BAYER**

Hi Steven,

Further to our brief conversation today on the subject of ancestry, if your wife is able to add anything to the sketchy info below, Shirley would certainly appreciate it. It is possible that your wife and Shirley share common ancestors.

John Maxwell, a Scot, moved to Irvinestown Northern Ireland some time during the 1860s. He married Jane Fagen early 1870s. They had 5 daughters and one son, Thomas John. Elizabeth (Lizzie) the eldest was born in Irvinestown on 24 August 1872. She subsequently married John Woods after migrating to Australia, and they settled in Fairfield a Sydney suburb. These were Shirley's maternal grandparents.

Margaret (Maggie) married Arthur Shepherd and settled in Ashfield Sydney. Isabella (Bella) married Wesley Binks and settled in Bangelow. Jane (Jinny) married the Reverend ? Allan, and we think settled in Hornsby. We think Mary-Anne married a man named Camps.

It seems that the Reverend Allan sponsored three of the girls as migrants to Australia, and paid 5 Pounds each for this privilege.

If the "Bella" Binks is your wife's ancestor, and if she has any information to add (or confirm/deny) the above, we would love to hear from her.

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'George', written in dark ink.

George Stevens